

THE WRANGELL SENTINEL

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WRANGELL, ALASKA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1915

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Harry Coonan Drowned At Anita Bay

Harry Coonan, a well known figure about Wrangell, was accidentally drowned about eleven yesterday morning when a row boat in which he was riding capsized at Anita Bay on Etolin Island.

Coonan had been fishing this summer with the crew of Chester Worthington and yesterday morning early they made a haul near Anita Bay and then ran in and went to anchor. Coonan with three shipmates got in a small row boat and started for the shore. A bad sea was running and the boat started to take water. Coonan who was rowing got excited and a wave that half filled the boat came on and he stood up and caused the boat to capsize, throwing them all into the water. Two of the men swam to the shore and one held on to the overturned boat and called for help, his cries were heard by Worthington on the boat, who put out in the sein skiff and rescued him and seeing the other two men on the shore he rowed ashore and asked where Harry was and when he could not be found they started to search for him and his body was discovered in about ten feet of water near where the boat turned over. The body was fished out and he was rushed to the boat but all efforts to bring him too failed, so the boat came to

Andrew Brood Adjudged Insane

Andrew Brood was adjudged insane by a jury in Commissioner Thomas' Court last Monday, and ordered sent to the asylum at Mt. Tabor, Ore. Brood is a Finlander about 44 years of age, a fisherman by occupation, and has resided here for about 5 or 6 years. While the case is a very mild one he is getting worse instead of better and it was thought best to have him sent where he can be taken care of.

Judge Jennings Gives Licenses

Judge Jennings was in town the first of the week Tuesday afternoon called the saloon men together at the court house and after reading the section of the law regarding their line of business stated that the court would grant the licenses for this year.

Wrangell and reported the matter to the coroner and the jury impaneled returned a verdict of accidental drowning.

Harry Coonan was a native of Belgium, about 30 years of age and has been a resident of Wrangell for several years. His body will be buried here.

Senator Sulzer Explains The Forest Reserve Fund Muddle

BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS FOR ALASKA

Valdez, Alaska,

August 10th., 1915.

Hon. Chas. A. Sulzer, Sulzer, Alaska.

Dear Senator Sulzer:

I have your letter of July 29th., concerning the Forest Reserve fund and the road situation in the First Division and was very glad indeed to have it. I already had in mind to write you at the first convenient opportunity setting forth the reasons for my telegram from Nome and the necessity for some modification in our plans unless the question of the distribution of the Forest Fund should soon be settled. In the first place let me say that my telegram from Nome was sent simply as a statement of fact and not intended in any sense as conveying a threat or imposing a condition. I would not like my attitude misunderstood on this point. You will recall that at our conference in Ketchikan about the 8th. of May I stated that I had always assumed, without attempting to analyze the law in the matter that the Forest Reserve fund would when it should become available be expended in the part of Alaska where collected - that is for the most part in S. E. - and that our Board had taken this fact into consideration in making allotments for

two or more years past; believing that your section of the Territory, being more favored in certain respects, especially freight rates, than remote parts of the interior, would suffer less by the delay. When, however, the Legislature allotted the Forest Fund in equal parts to the four divisions our Board proceeded to make allotments of funds at its disposal, giving what we thought a proper consideration to the Legislative action. These allotments by the Road Commission cover all the most important projects demanding attention in S. E. Alaska, except the Ketchikan road, which was to be taken care of by the Forest Reserve Fund. In other divisions this fund was to take care of certain specified projects; local roads at Fairbanks, the road around Cape Nome destroyed by storm and four or five projects in the third division. When the expenditure of the Forest Fund was enjoined some of the projects to be taken care of by that fund became an obligation upon our Board and it was thought best to postpone taking up new projects in S. E. Alaska for the time being. One or two of them may now have to be postponed until next season. Our Board has always considered the different judicial divisions as mere arbitrary divisions of the Territory for the convenience of the Department of Justice and not as having any direct influence upon the application of a general tax fund applied by law to the construction of roads and trails. It has been necessary, however, at times to give heed to a sentiment among the residents of different divisions as to the merits of their respective localities and sometimes to use this sentiment as an argument against the demands that could not be met, without unfairness to other sections of the Territory. Petitions for aid in road work come from all parts of Alaska, far beyond the ability of the board and sometimes protests are made against alleged injustice in allotments. Answering a recent protest of the kind from the citizens of Ruby, I stated for their information that the 4th division was getting its full share of road money; although contributing very little to the tax fund, and that our Board did not distribute its tax fund according to the districts or judicial divisions where collected, but endeavored to allot it equitably and according to the needs of different districts, as far as the fund would go. I called attention in the same letter to the fact that the Road Commission is engaged upon the construction and maintenance of no less than sixty-eight separate projects besides the overland wagon road; some of the projects embracing numerous small roads, as in the Fairbanks local system, these projects being scattered from the vicinity of Ketchikan to north of Kotzebue Sound and from Valdez to the Koyukuk; and that the percentage of the tax or Alaska fund

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Found Dead In Four Feet Of Water

The second accidental drowning in Wrangell during the past week happened yesterday when the body of E. Jossila was found in a small pool of water just below the falls of Fall Creek on the mainland about five miles from Wrangell.

According to the statement of Herman Esterlund, who found the body and was also the last man to see him alive. The last time he saw Jossila alive was Monday when they had dinner together on his boat and then they separated to go fishing and then he saw his boat the next morning anchored near Dead Man Island, then about six o'clock in the evening as he was returning up the channel he saw the boat anchored at the falls and turned in there for water for himself and on reaching the boat he was surprised to find that there was no skiff along and no one about the boat so he went ashore and started up to the falls to get a pail of water and was looking all around for Jossila when he saw his hat floating upside down on the water and on closer examination discovered the body lying in about three and a half feet of water. On seeing that he was really dead he started out to find

Shingle Mill Is To Be Sold Soon

According to information given out by F. E. Smith the first of the week, the Wrangell Shingle Mill will be advertised for sale and sold at public auction in the near future. The mill belongs to the Gano Estate of which Mr. Smith is administrator. Mr. Gano who built the mill died here in 1910, and left a wife and three children who live in Tacoma. Mrs. Gano latter married again.

his gill net and skiff which he discovered around the point fast on a snag, and then getting a fisherman to take it loose, he started for town to report the accident to the authorities. On the way in he picked up Anuk Jossila, a brother of the drowned man at his cabin at Little Telegraph, and broke the news to him, who came in and after reporting the matter Deputy Dalgity was sent out with them to bring the body to town where a coroners inquest was held this afternoon at which a verdict of meeting death in this pool of water was returned.

E. Jossila was a Finlander, 27 years of age, and has two brothers here and a father and mother living in Finland. He has been around Wrangell for the last two years working as a fisherman. It is thought that as he stooped down to get the water he fainted and pitched headlong into the pool.

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THE WRANGELL SENTINEL

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THE MAN UP TOWN SAYS

"If you really love your home town don't flirt with the mail order houses."

Senator Sulzer Explains The Forest Reserve Fund Muddle

(Continued from Page One)

provided to carry on this properly, and to meet other demands, was very inadequate. I also explained that the overland road, (Valdez-Fairbanks-Fort Gibbon), was for the benefit of the whole interior of Alaska, and constituted, together with the Haines-Chilkat military road, the argument and reasons for appropriations made by Military Committees of Congress for "Military and Post" roads in Alaska.

Referring again to your district, or 1st. Judicial Division, I will assure you that our Board does not fail to recognize its needs, nor its right to a fair proportion of expenditures on road projects. Any of the projects mentioned in the petition to our Board and agreed to by me at our last conference which may not be taken up this season, will merely be delayed for a short time only, it is hoped, and in the meanwhile existing roads will be repaired and maintained in as good condition as possible. The high water in parts of the Territory during the last few weeks has done considerable damage to our roads and makes necessary additional and unexpected expenditure for their repair.

The whole trouble about the road situation in Alaska primarily, of course, a lack of sufficient funds to accomplish what is really needed for the Territory's development, I have exerted my best efforts to have this situation recognized and taken care of, and the War Department has been liberal in its support; but the Army appropriation bill cannot carry money for the commercial development of Alaska. The Secretary of War in a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, Jan. 12, 1914, stated, in connection with a special estimate submitted by me for \$750,000.00, that "In the opinion of the Board of Road Commissioners and other parties having interest in the matter, the time has come for an expansion of this work of road building to an extent that makes it impossible to consider in military enterprise". This gives the reason for referring the matter to the Secretary of the Interior "for consideration and such action as he might deem advisable"; and also conveys the suggestion that the initial steps towards securing increased appropriations for road work in the Territory should come from a source other than the War Department.

With best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed) W. P. Richardson,
Colonel of Infantry,
President of the Board.

STATEMENT BY CHAS. A. SULZER

The telegram from Nome referred to by Col. Richardson in the attached letter was as follows:

Nome, Alaska, July 8th., 15.
Sulzer and Heckman,
Ketchikan.

"Allotments by our board road work your district based on

presumption that division of forest funds would be accepted as fixed by legislature. Understand injunction filed against disbursements under this distribution unless this action be withdrawn our board compelled to readjust allotments and suspend work for present on new projects your district."

Richardson.

The attached letter explains this telegram and this letter was written before the decision of the court in the forestry fund case. The letter from Colonel Richardson throws considerable light on the road situation and shows that the projects in S. E. Alaska would have been carried out in any event.

Since the court decision in the matter the following telegram has been received,

Valdez, Alaska, August, 13, 15.

Sulzer and Heckman,
Ketchikan.

"Reference court decision on forest advise that all projects your division be put through except Wrangell account lateness season must be postponed until spring. Mailed letter to you this subject just before decision of court was received."

Richardson.

There has been and is considerable confusion in the public minds regarding road and trail funds in the Territory. The "Forest Reserve Fund" is separate and apart from any funds handled by the Alaska Road Commission and should not be confused with the Commission's work. The Forest fund is a fund paid into the treasury of the Territory by the United States and represents 25 per cent of the money's derived from the National Forests. The money is paid over by reason of an act of Congress which provides that this money shall be expended by the Legislature for the maintenance of schools and the construction of roads and trails in the county or counties where the money has been derived. The purpose of this law is to partially compensate the sections embraced within forest reserve for the withdrawal of the lands and the restrictions imposed. No serious person questions the fact that it was the clear purpose of Congress that this money should be spent at its source. Unfortunately, when the law was enacted, Alaska had no Legislature at all and evidently was not taken into consideration. Again, when Alaska was created into a Territory with a local Legislature, the method adopted was radically different from any previous Territorial creation by our Government and the various divisions of Alaska were allowed to remain as Divisions and were not designated as Counties. In many respects the Alaska enabling act restricted the activities of the people of Alaska beyond the limitations of previous Territorial creations. Doubtless the non-contiguity of Alaska had something to do with

(Continued on Page Three)

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For professional and tradespeople see advertising columns.

A good show at the Wrangell Photoshow tonight.

The Wrangell Machine Shop installed a new crank shaft in the river boat Winifred last Sunday.

A good time dance was given at the Wrangell Hotel last Saturday night. A good time is reported by everyone present.

Mrs. Walter Campen, who recently shot and wounded her husband for which she was arrested, is now out on \$5000 bond. She is bound over to the grand jury.

The afternoon tea given by the Ladies of the Civic Improvement Club last Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. McDonald was a decided success and netted the club a good sum of money.

An eight and a half pound daughter was born at ten this morning to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ferguson. The little lady and mother are doing fine and Harry is wearing the smile that went some off.

The Irene Barnes was in from Lake Bay Tuesday. Capt. Burke reports that the rammer has up their pack. Capt. Burke expects to take the Dolphin south next trip and will spend the winter at Tacoma Wash.

Art Thebo, of Ketchikan, arrived up on the Mariopon last Friday morning and will make Wrangell his home for a time. While here he will have charge of the calling of the new saw for the mill company. Mrs. Thebo will join her husband here soon.

The Wrangell Restaurant now has a new cook in the person of one Tom Fugate who arrived down from Juneau on a late boat. Tom is a first class cook and will have charge of the kitchen from now on. Hereafter the restaurant will be open nights until one o'clock.

William Aiken, the well known "Shilling's Best" man, with his bride was in Wrangell for a few days the first of the week. Mrs. Aiken, formerly Miss Katherine Peterson of Port Arthur, Ont., and Mr. Aiken were married at Winnipeg on the evening of July 20th. Mr. Aiken's many friends all along the line are offering their congratulations in which the Sentinel joins.

A good show at the Photoshow tonight.

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Dr. S. Hall Young Writing New Book

Since the publication last week of the notice of Dr. S. Hall Young's new book "Alaska Days with John Muir", we have learned many new features about him, one is that he ran the first newspaper ever published in Alaska called "The Glacier" which he started in the fall of 1885 and ran for four years. While this was mostly a missionary paper the files which are owned by Mrs. W. G. Thomas, contain some very interesting matter. Another interesting news is also that Dr. Young is now writing another book of his experiences in Alaska, entitled, "The Mushing Parson." While the story is mostly of his experience in the Yukon it is looked forward to with interest by his friends here.

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 WRANGELL, ALASKA

Senator Sulzer Explains The Forest Reserve Fund Muddle

(Continued from Page Two)

the case, and also the vast size of the Territory and its conflicting interests and radically varied conditions, as well as gross popular ignorance as to the true facts about Alaska. However, be that as it may, I found during the early days of the last Legislature, that there was a disposition among some of the members to hide behind these technicalities, and notwithstanding it was generally acknowledged that the First Division was morally entitled under the law and under the past and present conditions in Alaska, to the full amount of \$52,000 which this division had paid into the fund, still finally, with three noted exceptions, the members of the other divisions voted solidly to take this money and divide it among all four divisions. The first day of the session I introduced Senate Bill Number One which provided for the expenditure of the First Division's portion of the fund, on the various projects in S. E. Alaska. A few days later a joint committee of the Senate and House was appointed to take this forest fund under consideration and make recommendations. We made the best fight we knew how and this committee, one Saturday, generally agreed to report the bill back favorably provided 25 percent of the amount be set aside for a general school board, which we agreed to. Before Monday certain influences were set to work which defeated this agreement and prevented the just settlement of this question throughout the remainder of the session. The present law on the subject was finally enacted by the Legislature and a road supervisor was appointed in each division to expend the money. There is an ancient writing which starts by saying that all Gaul is divided into three parts, and permit me to say that, after having for years the bulk of the road appropriations from Congress and the tax funds, and after obtaining \$55,000,000 from Congress for railroads, it was all "Gaul" that divided our poor little forest fund into four parts. The members from the other divisions were very adverse to any suggestions that forest reserves might be created in the other divisions so that they might have the opportunity to contribute on an equal basis to this forest fund. Some of the newspapers in the other divisions are now accusing the people of the first Division of an attempt to create dissension in Alaska, but this is not the truth. The representatives from the First Division have at no time asked for anything other than what was just and fair in the premises, and it was the members of the Legislature from the other three divisions who created any dissension that may exist, by narrow-mindedly playing smug politics. The people of Alaska can never be firmly bound together in a united and harmonious spirit by narrow legal technicalities. It requires a broadminded desire to be mutually fair and just in our dealings with greatly varying conditions over an immense area of Territory. The recent decision of the Court says that Congress gave this money to the people residing in the Tongass National Forest as part compensation for what the National Government had taken from them, and while this money had been taken away from them, still there is no legal redress except by the United States Government. We

must make the most of the fact and be content with the knowledge that we have asked for nothing unreasonable or unjust. So much for the Forest Reserve Fund. The funds of the Board of Alaska Road Commissioners, are derived from two sources, first from Congress by appropriations, in the Army bill for the construction and maintenance of military and post roads, and second by a percentage of the Federal tax monies collected in Alaska and placed in what is known as the Alaska Fund. The amount that has been appropriated by Congress up to the close of last year is \$1,542,000,000, and this has practically all been spent in the Third and Fourth Divisions, but as this money is expended by the War Department for military purposes it does not enter into the question we have under discussion. The Board of Road Commissioners have received and expended from the Federal appropriation and Federal taxes in Alaska the sum of \$1,000,000. This has been expended in the different divisions as follows:
 First Division—\$240,000
 Second " 240,000
 Third " 240,000
 Fourth " 240,000
 The second Division has received nearly twice as much as the First. The Third Division has received considerably more than twice as much, and the Fourth Division has received nearly four times the amount of the First Division. In this connection it must be taken into consideration that the first Division has paid in practically one half of these taxes. Colonel Richardson states that he has refigured these facts, but that he found for the past several years have assumed that the forest monies would be expended where derived, or practically all in the First division, and would tend to balance the expenditures for the entire Territory, and get some papers from the Interior call as hogwash by asking for what we have been confidently expecting and waiting for several years and what is conceded to us by all disinterested parties.
 After the Legislature passed the law dividing the Forest Fund, immediately introduced the Memorial to the Alaska Road Commission. The members from the other Divisions smiled good naturedly and rather cynically and said, "gave me the laugh, but said they would not seriously object to my getting anything I could from the Road Commission. Feeling quite certain I couldn't get anything from in due time the memorial passed and was submitted to the Road Commission together with all the letters and petitions and data that I had been collecting during the session of the road and trail question.
 At the close of the Legislature the members from the First Division agreed that as there was only \$11,500 available for this Division it would be best to expend it all on the Chena Point road, as there was not enough to divide among the different projects to accomplish any good. They also unanimously sanctioned the suit to enjoin the Treasurer from paying out any money from the First Division. There could be no question about the First Division being entitled to less than one fourth of the fund and it would be silly for anyone to contend otherwise. There had been a promise inserted into the law by Representative Shoup that in case any part or section should

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(Continued on Page Four)



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Lists 6-1666, -1667, 1668

Restoration To Entry Of Land In The National Forest

Notice is hereby given that the lands described below, embracing 290.06 acres, within the Tongass National Forest, Alaska, will be subject to settlement and entry under the provisions of the homestead laws of the United States and the act of June 11, 1906 (34 Stat., 233), at the United States land office at Juneau, Alaska on October 16, 1915. Any settler who was actually and in good faith claiming any of said lands for agricultural purposes prior to January 1, 1906 and has not abandoned same, has a preference right to make a homestead entry for the lands actually occupied. Said lands were listed upon the applications of the persons mentioned below, who have a preference right subject to the prior right of any such settler, provided such settler or applicant is qualified to make homestead entry and the preference right is exercised prior to October 16, 1915, on which date the lands will be subject to settlement and entry by any qualified person. The lands embrace a tract of 94.17 acres, described as follows: Beginning at Corner No. 1, a beaver post set at intersection of creeks, marked H 1, whence a spruce 30" in diameter bears S. 54 deg. E., 1.13 chs.; extending thence N. 55 deg. 45 min. W., 12.05 chs.; thence N. 78 deg. 45 min. E., 19.36 chs.; thence S. 33 deg. 30 min. E., 59.15 chs.; thence S. 76 deg. 30 min. W., 21.79 chs.; thence meandering along east bank of Creek N. 1 deg. W., 11.89 chs.; N. 7 deg. 30 min. W., 4.77 chs.; N. 34 deg. W., 5.29 chs.; S. 79 deg. W., 4.38 chs.; N. 39 deg. 30 min. W., 3.14 chs.; whence Corner No. 2 of the Martin Olsen Forest Homestead Survey No. 69 bears S. 28 deg. W., 3.22 chs.; thence N. 31 deg. 30 min. W., 4.07 chs.; N. 64 deg. W., 4.40 chs.; N. 52 deg. W., 3.54 chs.; and N. 23 deg. 30 min. W., 3.77 chs., to the place of beginning, listed upon application of Ivar Olaf Arnesen, Warm Springs Bay, Baranoff, Alaska; List 6-1666. A tract of 101.36 acres, described as follows: Beginning at Corner No. 1, identical with Forest Service Monument consisting of a sawn post marked F. S. M. H-1 located on north side of the head of Port Snettisham 25 links from extreme high tide, approximately one fourth mile southwest of the mouth of Speel River; extending thence N. 20 deg. E., 40 chs.; thence S. 70 deg. E., 24.73 chs.; thence S. 20 deg. W., 24.90 chs.; thence by meanders along line of mean high tide of Speel River; S. 11 deg. 15 min. W., 10.47 chs.; thence S. 67 deg. 15 min. W., 9.35 chs.; thence N. 81 deg. 30 min. W., 5.05 chs.; thence N. 51 deg. W., 10.38 chs.; thence N. 78 deg. 15 min. W., 4.75 chs., to the place of beginning, application of W. P. Lass, Treadwell, Alaska; List 6-1667. A tract of 94.93 acres, described as follows: Beginning at Corner No. 1, identical with Forest Service Monument and Corner No. 1 of the K. B. Norholm Forest Homestead Survey No. 71; extending thence N. 21 deg. E., 14.03 chs.; thence meandering along the west bank of John's Creek N. 39 deg. 15 min. W., 2.76 chs.; thence N. 19 deg. 30 min. W., 2.98 chs.; thence N. 4 deg. E., 3.68 chs.; thence 10 deg. W., 10.82 chs.; thence N. 5 deg. E., 7.82 chs.; thence N. 3 deg. 45 min. W., 8.11 chs.; thence N. 6 deg. 45 min. W., 10.15 chs.; cross small creek; thence S. 79 deg. 15 min. W., 8.09 chs.; to Corner No. 3; thence S. 60 deg. 30 min. W., 22.14 chs.; thence S. 29 deg. 30 min. E., 55.30 chs., to Corner No. 1, the place of beginning, application of Martin Olsen, Warm Springs Bay, Baranoff, Alaska; List 6-1668. June 29, 1915. C. M. Bruce, Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Sulzer Explains Fund Muddle

(Continued from Page Three)

be void, it did not invalidate the remainder, and this protected the Charcoal Point road in any event. Colonel Richardson was met at Ketchikan while on his way North by Mayor Beegle, Representative Heckman and a number of prominent citizens and myself and the facts in the matter laid before him, and I laid before him all the data I had collected during the Legislative session. The Alaska Road Commission has agreed to expend \$30,000 in this Division on the various roads and trails this year. During the past the placer gold miners and the dog-team men have done all the shouting about Alaska, but in the Territory and throughout the States and in Washington, D. C. Nine hundred and ninety people in every thousand in the States, if they can tell you anything about Alaska at all, will describe Alaska as it is around Nome or Fairbanks. There are good politicians and good advertisers in the Second and Fourth Divisions and a good many of them look with disdain upon the Island Empire of the First Division. But the First Division is a part of Alaska and a very important part. It has afforded most of the permanent population and paid most of the bills of the Territory and the time has arrived when it must be taken into consideration. The people of this Division are ready to assert themselves and they must be granted what their commerce and industry and importance justly entitle them to have.

Respectfully,
CHAS. A. SULZER.

Juneau Boat Makes Call Here

The gas boat Iowa, of Juneau, arrived in port last Monday afternoon, bringing here Mr. Irwin, of the Fisheries Service. The Iowa is run by her owner Mr. Jesse L. Nevill and has been under charter this summer to the fisheries service. The charter being now out the Iowa left again Tuesday for Juneau, Mrs. Nevill going home on her after spending a few weeks here visiting with Mrs. Walker.

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